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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of December, 1989)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters increased during December. The land crew total increased by three to 112, and the marine crew remained the same at twenty for a total of 132 crews and vessels.

The December total (132) represents an increase of 2% over last month, a 6% decrease from December, 1988, a 34% decrease from December, 1987, an 16% decrease from December, 1986, a 60% decrease from December, 1985, a 72% decrease from December, 1984, and **a decrease of 73% from the same month in 1983.**

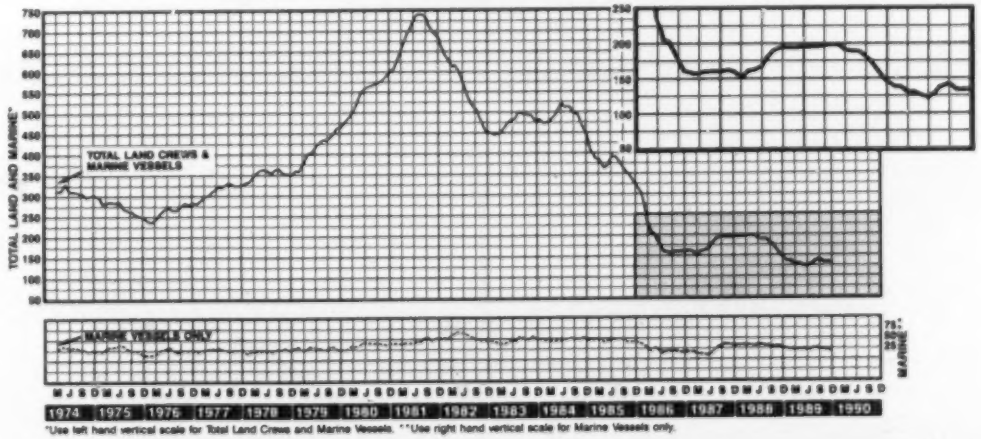
During December, three contractors were operating three of the 102 land crews and none of the seventeen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Dec.'88	Dec.'87	Dec.'86	Dec.'85	Dec.'84	Dec.'83
	132	129	141	199	157	326	466	493

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983
37 Contr's:	102	99	100	157	121	255	378	408	17	17	24	24	15	33	44	41
6 Oil Co's:	10	10	14	15	18	32	36	37	3	3	3	3	3	6	8	7
0 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	112	109	114	172	139	287	414	445	20	20	27	27	18	39	52	48

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
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1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990

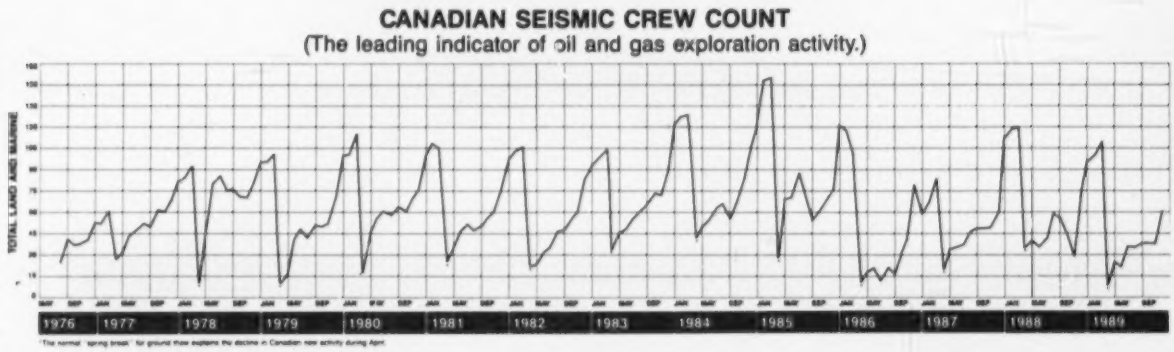
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

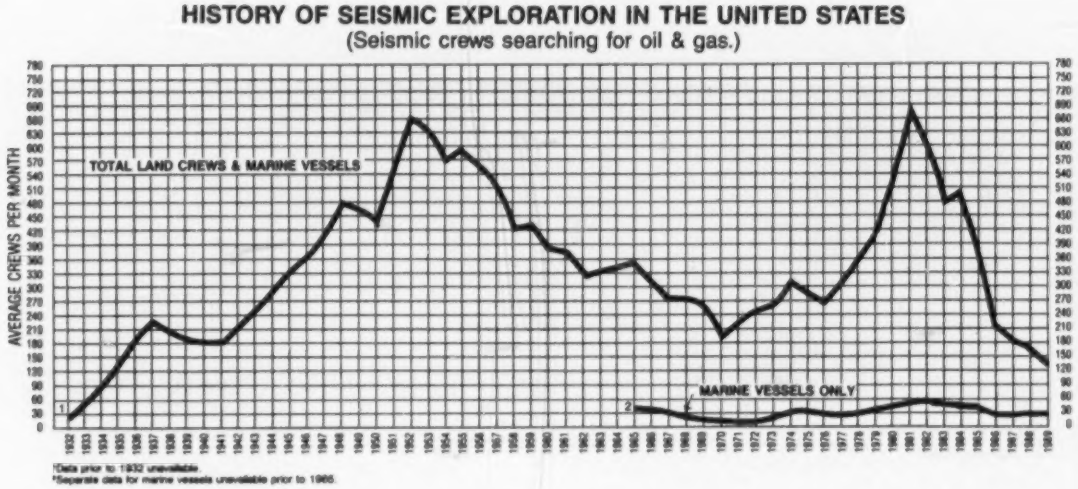
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

December, 1989 (November figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Crews
27 Contractors:	61 (39)	0 (0)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	62 (40)	0 (0)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)
AVERAGE CREWS PER MONTH
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
1
2